

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 have been cancelled and new claims 8-14 are added in order to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, 35 U.S.C. §102 and 35 U.S.C. §103.

In rewriting claim 1 as new claim 8 Applicant has called for a container base including a first upper surface area. Thus, it is Applicants intention that Applicant is claiming the base of an exterior frame. Further, Applicant has deleted "in a container," and "as an assembly." The surface area has also been rewritten to refer to a first upper surface area.

Further, the term "mountable" and other method limitations have been replaced by proper language. The term "cladding" has been replaced by the term "layer". Further, the term "from an inorganic material" has been replaced by "formed of an inorganic material selected from the group consisting of...".

With respect to claim 8 a proper antecedent basis has been provided for the covering facing the inside space.

Claims 1-4 and 6-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Yen (U.S. Patent No. 4,470,508).

It is respectfully submitted that new claims 8-14 are clearly and patentably distinguished over the Yen reference. To be more specific, claims 8-14 call for a container base including a first upper surface and a covering including an inner surface mounted on said container base and wherein said first surface area of said base and said inner surface area are formed of an inorganic material selected from the group consisting of metals, alloys, glass and ceramics. By contrast, Yen calls for spacing blocks made of polyethylene, acrylics or aluminum. Yen also refers to the preferred contact adhesive having various properties. To be more specific, the spacer in Yen is not a layer of an inner surfaces of the inside space

between the first surface area of the base and the inner surface of the covering. In fact, the reference is silent about material forming a surface layer of the container except for a coating layer of an adhesive. Further, the adhesive is an organic material and is not an inorganic material as called for in claim 1.

Yen is also silent on any organic contaminant gasses emitted from the inner surface of the pellicle container. Accordingly, the present invention overcomes a problem associated with emission or decrease of an organic contaminant gas by providing an inorganic layer. This concept is not disclosed or suggested by Yen. Accordingly, it is Applicants contention that new claims 8-14 are clearly and patentable distinguished over the cited reference and should be allowed.

Original claim 5 was also rejected as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yen (U.S. Patent No. 4,470,508) in view of Suzuura et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,066,404). In making that rejection, the Examiner argued that Yen discloses a container for a pellicle comprising an inorganic material. However, the Examiner recognizes that Yen fails to disclose an inorganic material having a thickness of at least 0.1 μ m. The Examiner contends that Suzuura et al. teaches a thickness of 12 μ m for the purpose of making a container having stable cleanliness.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of Suzuura does not disclose or suggest Applicants novel combination of elements. To be more specific, the subject matter of Suzuura is a clean film package or packaging pouch which is suitable for packaging clothing or delicate articles. The pouch is made of nylon or polyethylene film and does not include an inorganic layer. Accordingly, it is Applicants contention that there is no basis for combining the Suzuura et al. reference with Yen. Further,

Suzuura is silent on prevention of omission of organic contaminant gasses from the container's surface. Accordingly, it is Applicants contention that new claim 12 is clearly and patentably distinguished over the cited references and should be allowed.

In addition, it is Applicants intention that the reference does not disclose or suggest new claim 11 which calls for said base and said outer covering each including an outer surface and each of said outer surfaces include a layer formed of an inorganic material.

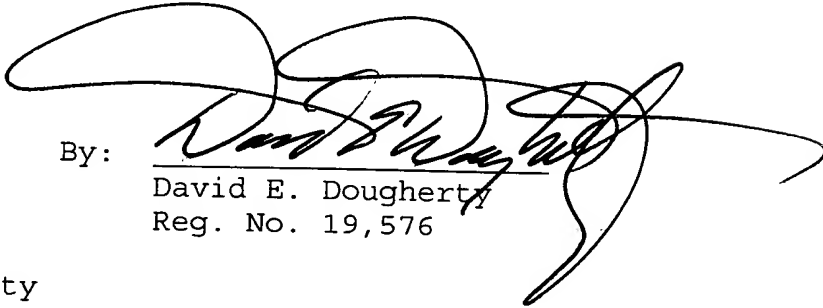
Finally, with respect to claim 14, it is Applicants contention that there is nothing in the cited references to disclose or suggest a first surface area of the base and the inner surface of said covering including a layer formed from an inorganic material selected from the group consisting of silicon nitride, silicon carbide, zirconia, alumina and boron nitride. Accordingly, it is Applicants contention that new claim 14 should be allowed.

Since all the claims are now in proper form and clearly and patentably distinguished over the cited art, favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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